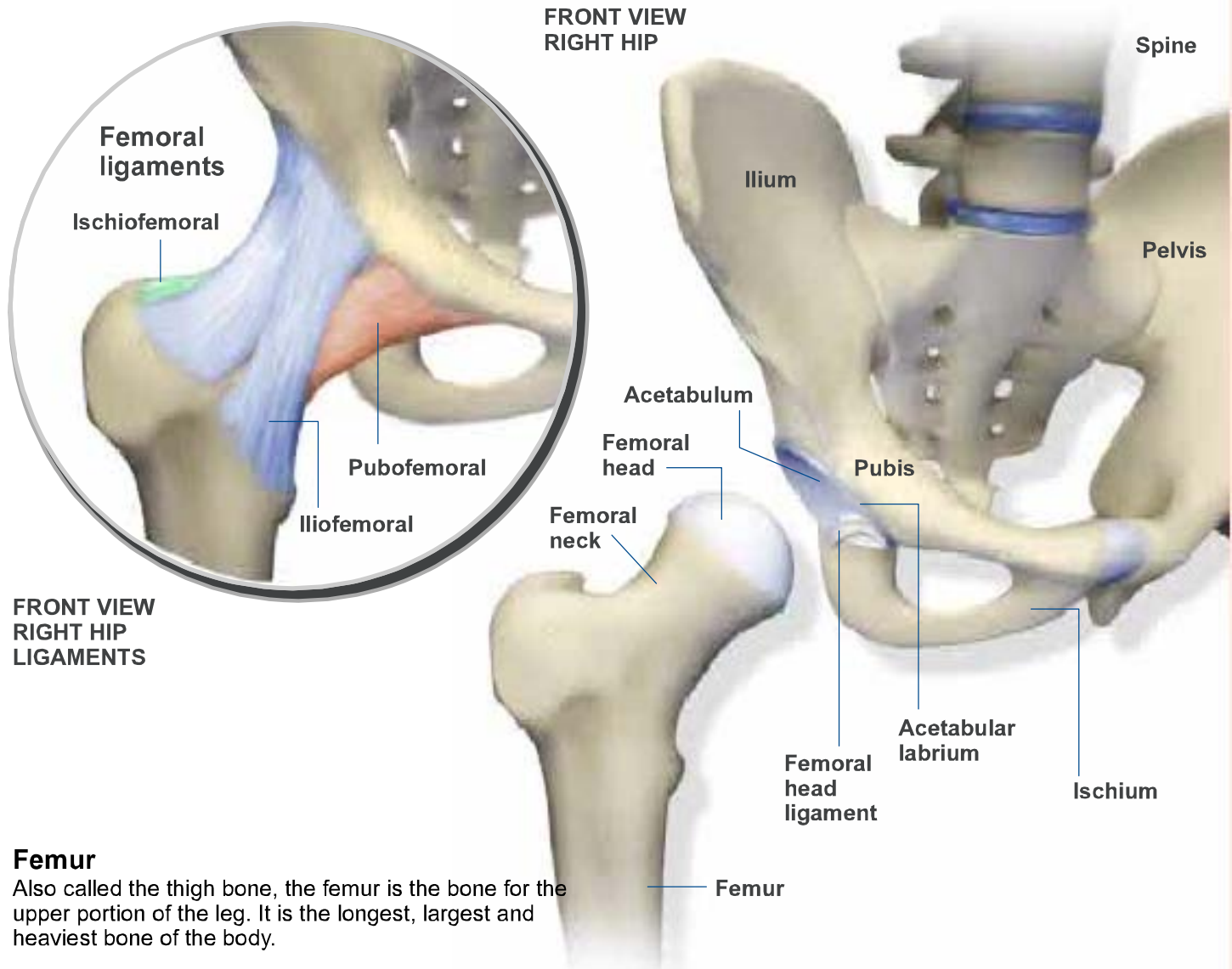


ANATOMY OF THE HIP



Femur

Also called the thigh bone, the femur is the bone for the upper portion of the leg. It is the longest, largest and heaviest bone of the body.

Femoral head

The femoral head is the top ball-like end of the femur. The femoral head fits into the socket of the pelvic bone to form the hip joint. Cartilage on the head cushions the joint in the socket, allowing smooth rotation.

Femoral neck

The femoral neck supports the femoral head. Its length allows for maximum leverage and rotation.

Pelvis

Two hip bones come together to form a girdle at the bottom of the body called the pelvis. It carries and transmits weight from the upper body to the lower limbs in standing or sitting positions. Each hip bone is divided into three sections: The ilium, the ischium and the pubis.

Acetabulum

This cavity in the pelvis forms the socket that holds the femoral head.

Acetabular labrum

Also called the acetabular lip, this soft tissue extends out from the socket.

Femoral head ligament

This ligament connects the femoral head to the acetabulum.

Femoral ligaments

These three strong ligaments attach the femur bone to the pelvis. They stretch over the joint to strengthen and support it.